

Washington, DC -- On Monday, February 23, 2009, U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) will present Herkimer County Community College (HCCC) President Ann Marie Murray with copies of the Congressional Record statements honoring the HCCC Men's Soccer and Women's Track Teams on their National Championship victories.

Presentation of the Congressional Record Statements

Date: Monday, February 23, 2009

Time: 8:30am

Location: HCCC Alumni Hall, 100 Reservoir Rd., Herkimer, NY

Contact: Katherine Montano, 315-866-0300 ext. 8259

The HCCC Men's Soccer Team won the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III National Soccer Championship and the Women's Track and Field Team won its fourth regional championship and its first ever national championship. Altogether, HCCC's athletic programs have won 72 regional championships and 31 national championships

Text of the Congressional Record congratulating both teams can be found below:

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008

Mr. ARCURI. Madame Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Herkimer County Community College (HCCC) Men's Soccer Team in my congressional district in Upstate New York. The team won the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III National Soccer Championship. Herkimer defeated Triton College 2-1 on November 9 at the tournament hosted by Richland College in Dallas, Texas. The victory marks the HCCC Generals' seventh NJCAA Division III National Championship in soccer and the 31st team National Championship for all of the school's athletic programs.

Four student athletes were named to the Final Four All-Tournament team. They include Demetrius Lawrence of Reading, England; Kariym Balthazar of Brooklyn, New York; Sean Trinidad of White Plains, New York; and James Taber of Liverpool, New York. Fellow team member Joeski Williams of Bronx, New York was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

HCCC finished the season with a record of 20 wins, 3 losses and 0 ties. Over its history, the team has amassed a total record of 472 wins, 75 losses and 26 ties.

Five of the players received the designation of All-Conference this season. They were Harry Appiah of Pawtucket, Rhode Island; Rob Dickinson of Endicott, NY; Lee Martins of Bridgeport, Connecticut; and Demetrius Lawrence and Sean Trinidad. Seven players received All-Region accolades: Harry Appiah, Kariym Balthazar, Rob Dickinson, Demetrius Lawrence, Lee Martins, James Taber and Sean Trinidad.

Appiah and Martins were named to the NJCAA All-American Team. Martins was also named the 2008 National Soccer Coaches Association of America Junior College National Player of the Year, and the 2008 NJCAA Region III and Mountain Valley Conference Player of the Year.

The team's coach, Pepe Aragon, was named NJCAA National Coach of the Final Four tournament after earning his 200th win this season. In his 11 seasons coaching the team, Aragon has amassed a record of 203 wins, 19 losses and 1 tie. For these impressive accomplishments, he was also inducted into the NJCAA Soccer Hall of Fame.

Madame Speaker, I am proud to represent the Herkimer County Community College Men's Soccer Team and their coach, Pepe Aragon, who are to be commended for their great accomplishments. Please join me in congratulating the entire team on their victory.

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madame Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Herkimer County Community College (HCCC) Women's Track and Field Team in my congressional district in Upstate New York. In 2008, the team won its fourth regional championship and its first ever national championship. Altogether, HCCC's athletic programs have won 72 regional championships and 31 national championships.

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III Region III Women's Track and Field Championships were held at the State University of New York (SUNY) College of Technology at Alfred from May 2-3. The Lady Generals came in first with an impressive 163.5 points. Chantal Salamone, from Little Falls, placed first in the triple jump and 100 meter hurdles, and was named the Women's Field Athlete of the Meet. Amanda Davey, of Amsterdam, won in the 400 meter hurdles. Betheny Jennings, of Sylvan Beach, was first in the shot put, while Sarah Lazarus of South New Berlin was first in the 3000 meter steeplechase.

The NJCAA Division III National Women's Track and Field Championships were hosted by SUNY Delhi from May 8-10. HCCC won the meet with 135 points. Chantal and Amanda again won the 100 and 400 meter hurdles, respectively. As a result of their wins, Chantal and Amanda were named First Team All-Americans. They were also named Second Team All-Americans for their second place finishes in the triple jump (Chantal), heptathlon (Amanda), and 3200 meter relay (both).

Joining Chantal and Amanda as Second Team All-Americans were Sarah and Theresa Lazarus from South New Berlin and Krysta Estey from Little Falls. Sarah was second in the high jump and was also a part of the 3200 meter relay team, while Theresa was second in the 400 meter hurdles. Krysta was a member of the relay team.

Amanda Link from North Patchogue, and Grace Hall from Herkimer also helped HCCC to achieve victory in the regional and national championships.

The Lady Generals were led by Head Coach Sharon Howell and Assistant Coach Julie DelMedico. Howell was named Coach of the Meet for both the regional and national championships.

Madame Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Herkimer County Community College Women's Track and Field Team on their victories. I am proud to represent such talented athletes, and I wish them the best of luck with their future athletic and scholarly pursuits.

###